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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/804,791	03/19/2004	Christopher D. Russo	81206/7114	8885

37123 7590 06/16/2006

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CHICAGO, IL 60603

EXAMINER	
WRIGHT, INGRID D	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2835	

DATE MAILED: 06/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/804,791	RUSSO, CHRISTOPHER D.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Ingrid Wright	2835	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *28 March 2006*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-32* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-9,11-22 and 24-32* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *10 and 23* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *19 March 2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☒ Other: *4 Attachments*.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1,5,7-9 & 11- 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anzai et al. US 6259597 in view of Kobayashi et al. US 5737183.

Note: See attached fig. 1 & 2 of Anzai et al. & fig. 4 of Kobayashi et al. for elements representing claimed limitations in the instant application.

With respect to claim 1, Anzai et al. teaches a protective cover (see, Abstract of Anzai et al.) for an electronic device (10) having a display screen (32) and user inputs (24), the protective cover (see, Abstract of Anzai et al.) comprising: a cover portion (40); and a coupling portion (22,50) to couple the cover portion (40) to the electronic device (10), the coupling portion (22,50) adapted to allow the cover portion (40) to be selectively positioned between a first position and a second position; wherein in the first position, the cover portion (40) is positioned proximate to the user inputs (24) and is sized to cover at least one user input (24); wherein in the second position, the cover portion (40) is positioned proximate to the display screen (32) and is sized to cover at least a portion of the display screen (32).

Anzai et al. is silent as to the coupling portion (22,50), being adapted to removably couple the cover portion (40) to the electronic device (10).

Kobayashi et al. teaches a cover portion (3) of a portable computer (1) and a coupling portion (6), which is adapted to removably couple the cover portion (3) to the electronic device (1), for providing a means of covering a display in a rotatable manner (see, Abstract of Kobayashi et al.) and allowing quick repair/replacement of the cover.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to utilize the coupling device of Kobayashi et al., in the invention of Anzai et al., for providing a means of covering a display in a rotatable manner (see, Abstract of Kobayashi et al.) and allowing quick repair/replacement of the cover.

With respect to claim 5, Anzai et al. teaches a cover portion (40) that is substantially rigid.

With respect to claim 7, Anzai et al. teaches a cover portion (40), which includes an edge extending about at least a portion of a periphery of one surface, the edge extending substantially upward when the cover portion (40) is located in the first position (see, notation on attached fig. 1 of Anzai et al.).

With respect to claim 8, Kobayashi et al. teaches a post (6) coupled to a cover portion (3) and a piece (3e) adapted to receive a portion of the post (6) such that the post is rotatable within the piece (3e), the piece (3e) further adapted to removably and rigidly couple an electronic device (1) (see, fig. 4 of Kobayashi et al.).

With respect to claim 9, Anzai et al. teaches an electronic device (10) having a base portion (20) and a display portion (32) hinged together via (22,50).

Anzai et al. is silent as to wherein a piece is removably coupled to a hinge (22,50) of the electronic device (10).

Kobayashi et al. teaches the piece (3e), which is capable of being removably coupled to a hinge (3b,3c) of the electronic device (1), the electronic device (10) having a base portion and a display portion hinged together, for providing a means of covering a display in a rotatable manner (see, Abstract of Kobayashi et al.) and allowing quick repair/replacement of the cover.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to utilize the coupling device of Kobayashi et al., in the invention of Anzai et al., for providing a means of covering a display in a rotatable manner (see, Abstract of Kobayashi et al.) and allowing quick repair/replacement of the cover.

With respect to claim 11, Kobayashi et al. teaches the piece (3e) and the post (6), which are configured such that the post (6) is fit within the piece (3e), such that the cover is held in position by the friction fit (see, col. 3, lines 50-51 of Kobayashi et al.).

With respect to claims 12, Anzai et al. teaches display screen (32) comprising latch (34), which functions as a clip, i.e. to clip the cover portion (40) to the display screen (32) of the electronic device (10) in the second position.

Anzai et al. is silent as to the latch functioning as a clip, being removable.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to utilize the latch of Anzai et al., over a clip as an alternate equivalent means of clipping a cover to display screen of an electronic device.

As to the removability of the latch, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make a configuration where the latch is removable, over the latch of Anzai et al., in order to provide a repairability of the latch.

With respect to claim 13, Anzai et al. teaches a touch sensitive layer positioned on at least a portion of an exposed surface of the cover portion (40) in the first position (see, notation on attached fig. 1 of Anzai et al.), the touch sensitive portion serving as a user input (24) (see, col. 3, lines 22-33 of Anzai et al.).

With respect to claim 14, Anzai et al. teaches a cover portion (40) sized to cover the user inputs (24) and in the second position, the cover portion 40 is sized to cover the display screen (32) (see, fig. 1 & 2 of Anzai et al.).

2. Claims 2-4,15-18,20-22 & 24-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anzai et al. US 6259597 B1, in view of Kobayashi et al., further in view of Rouser US 5204160.

Note: See attached fig. 1 & 2 of Anzai et al. & fig. 1 of Rouser for elements representing claimed limitations in the instant application.

With respect to claim 2, Anzai et al. as modified by Koyabashi et al., teaches all the limitations of claim 1 above.

Anzai et al. as modified by Koyabashi et al., does not teach the cover portion being configured to limit an angle of view of the display screen through the cover portion in the second position.

Rouser teaches (fig. 1,2) a cover (20) configured to limit an angle of view of a display screen (see, col. 2, lines 24-45 & col. 3, lines 25-49 of Rouser).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was

made to utilize the protective cover of Rouser in the invention of Anzai et al. as modified by Koyabashi et al., in order to provide a means of security and privacy for a user in viewing a display (see, col. 3, ones 40-49 of Rouser).

With respect to claim 3, Anzai et al. teaches a transparent plate (44) and a layer (46,48) covering one surface of the transparent plate (44) (see, notations on attached fig. 2 of Anzai et al.) or Rouser teaches a transparent plate (20) and a layer (10) covering one surface of the transparent plate (20) (see, col. 2, lines 24-45 & col. 3, lines 22-33 of Rouser).

With respect to claim 4, Rouser teaches the cover (20), which includes channels (16) formed in one surface, the channels (16) each having sidewalls and a bottom wall defining a length (T), width (W) and depth (D) of the channel (16), a substantially opaque material coating at least one sidewall of the channels (16), the substantially opaque material configured to limit the angle of view of the display screen through the cover portion (see, col. 2, lines 46-48, 55-60 & col. 3, lines 15-24 of Rouser).

With respect to claim 15, Anzai et al. (see, fig. 1 of Anzai et al.) teaches a protective computer system comprising: a computer (10) having a base (20) including a keyboard (24) and a lid including a display screen (32), the lid pivotally coupled to the base (20); a cover (40); a cover portion (40) to be selectively positioned between a first position and a second position; a coupling portion (22), wherein in the first position, the cover (40) is positioned proximate to and over the keyboard (24) and is sized to cover the keyboard (24); and wherein in the second

position, the cover (40) is positioned proximate to the display screen (32) such that the cover (40) is between a viewer and the display screen (32) and the cover (40) is sized to cover the display screen (32).

Anzai et al. is silent as to a coupling device adapted to removably couple the cover portion to the computer and a cover configured to limit an angle of view of a display screen.

Kobayashi et al. teaches a cover portion (3) of a portable computer (1) and a coupling portion (6), which is adapted to removably couple the cover portion (3) to the electronic device (1), for providing a means of covering a display in a rotatable manner (see, Abstract of Kobayashi et al.) and allowing quick repair/replacement of the cover.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to utilize the coupling device of Kobayashi et al., in the invention of Anzai et al., for providing a means of covering a display in a rotatable manner (see, Abstract of Kobayashi et al.) and allowing quick repair/replacement of the cover.

Rouser teaches a cover (20) configured to limit an angle of view of a display screen (see, col. 3, lines 40-49 of Rouser).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the protective cover of Rouser in the invention of Anzai et al. as modified by

Kobayashi et al., in order to provide a means of security and privacy for a user while viewing a screen of a display (see, col. 3, lines 46-49 of Rouser).

With respect to claim 16, Rouser teaches a cover (20) (see, notation on attached fig. 1 of Rouser) and a transparent plate (see, col. 2, lines 44-45 of Rouser); and a layer (10) covering one surface of the transparent plate (see, col. 2, lines 24-45 of Rouser).

With respect to claim 17, Rouser teaches a cover (20), which includes channels (16) formed in one surface, the channels (16) each having sidewalls and a bottom wall defining a length (T), width (W) and depth (D) of the channel (16), a substantially opaque material coating at least one sidewall of the channels (16), the substantially opaque material configured to limit the angle of view of the display screen through the cover portion (see, col. 2, lines 46-48, 55-60 & col. 3, lines 15-24 of Rouser).

With respect to claim 18, Anzai et al. teaches a cover substantially rigid.

With respect to claim 20, Anzai et al. teaches a cover (40) including an edge (see, notation on attached fig. 1 of Anzai et al.) extending about at least a portion of a periphery of one surface, the edge (see, notation on attached fig. 1 of Anzai et al.) extending substantially upward when the cover (40) is located in the first position (see, notation on attached fig. 1 of Anzai et al.).

With respect to claim 21, Kobayashi et al. teaches a post (6) coupled to a cover (3) and a piece (3e) adapted to receive a portion of the post (6) such that the post (6), the piece 3e) further adapted to removably and rigidly couple to the computer (1).

With respect to claim 22, Kobayashi et al. teaches a piece (3e) coupled to a hinge (3b,3c) of the computer (1) (see, notations on attached fig. 1 of Kobayashi et al.).

With respect to claim 24, Kobayashi et al. teaches the piece (3e) and the post (6), which are configured such that the post (6) is fit within the piece (3e), such that the cover (3) is held in position by the friction fit (see, col. 3, lines 50-51 of Kobayashi et al).

With respect to claims 25, Anzai et al. teaches display screen (32) comprising latch (34), which functions as a clip, i.e. to clip the cover portion (40) to the display screen (32) of the electronic device (10) in the second position.

Anzai et al. is silent as to the latch functioning as a clip, being removable.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to utilize the latch of Anzai et al., over a clip as an alternate equivalent means of clipping a cover to display screen of an electronic device.

As to the removability of the latch, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make a configuration where the latch is removable, over the latch of Anzai et al., in order to provide a repairability of the latch.

With respect to claim 26, Anzai et al. teaches a touch sensitive layer positioned on at least a portion of an exposed surface of the cover 20 in the first position, the touch sensitive portion serving as a user input (see, col. 3, lines 22-33).

Regarding the method claims 27-32, the method steps recited in the claims are taught by Anzai et al., Kobayashi et al. & Rouser. Anzai et al., Kobayashi et al. & Rouser disclosed removably (6) coupling a cover (40) coupled to a portion of the electronic device (10); the cover (40) positioned to a first position, wherein in the first position, the cover (40) located proximate to the user inputs (24) and is sized to cover at least one user input (24); the cover (40) repositioned to a second position, wherein in the second position, the cover (40) is relocated proximate to the display screen (32) and is sized to cover (40) at least a portion of the display screen (32), limiting an angle of view of a display screen (32) through a cover (40) when the cover (20) is in the second position, a placement, after the positioning step, an object on the cover is placed without activating the at least one user input, the cover (40) pivoted about an axis to relocate the cover (40) to the second position.

3. Claims 6 & 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anzai et al. US 6259597 B1, in view of Kobayashi et al. US 5737183, further in view of Rouser US 5204160 & Haley et al. US 5982617.

With respect to claims 6 & 19, Anzai et al., as modified by Kobayashi et al. and Rouser teaches, in regards to all the limitations of claims 1 & 15, a cover (40).

Anzai et al. as modified by Kobayashi et al. & Rouser, does not teach a cover portion which includes at least one hole.

Haley et al. teaches a cover portion (114) which includes at least one hole (107), for providing increased or enhanced cooling of electronic components (see, col. 3, lines 55-58 of Haley et al.).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the cover portion with a hole as taught by Haley et al. in the invention of Anzai et al. as modified by Kobayashi et al. & Rouser, in order to provide a means of increased or enhanced cooling of electronic components (see, col. 3, lines 55-58 of Haley et al.).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 10 & 23 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for indication of allowable subject matter: the allowability resides in the overall structure of the device as recited I dependent claims 10 & 23, and at least in part because claims 10 & 23 recite: "wherein the piece comprises a clip that can be removably attached to a portion of the electronic device." The aforementioned limitations in combination with all remaining limitations of claims 10 & 23 are believed to render the claims and all claims dependent therefrom patentable over the art of record.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments, filed 3/28/06, have been fully considered, but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

With respect to Applicant's arguments, regarding the coupling portion (22) not being adapted to removably couple the cover portion (40) to the electronic device, the Examiner notes that Kobayashi et al. is relied upon to teach a removable or detachable coupling device (6) of a hinge structure (3e) for allowing a display cover (3) to be removed from an electronic device (see, Abstract of Kobayashi et al.).

With respect to Applicant's arguments, regarding Anzai and Helot not suggesting a post coupled to a cover portion and a piece to receive the post, the Examiner notes that Kobayashi et al. teaches a post (6) that is coupled to a cover portion (3) and a piece (3b,3c) for receiving the post (6).

With respect to Applicant's arguments, regarding Hung not teaching a clip, the Examiner notes that Anzai et al. is relied upon to teach a latch (34) functioning as a clip, whereby a cover portion (40) is clipped to a display screen (32). Anzai et al. is silent as to a removable coupling device with a piece. Kobayashi et al. is relied upon teach a piece (3e) for a removable coupling device (6) coupled to an electronic device (1) and a cover portion (3) clipped to a display screen via an additional latch (15) acting as a clip (see, notation on attachment fig. 4 of Kobayashi et al.).

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Bovio et al. US 20050088810 A1 shows the state of the art regarding displays in computer configurations.

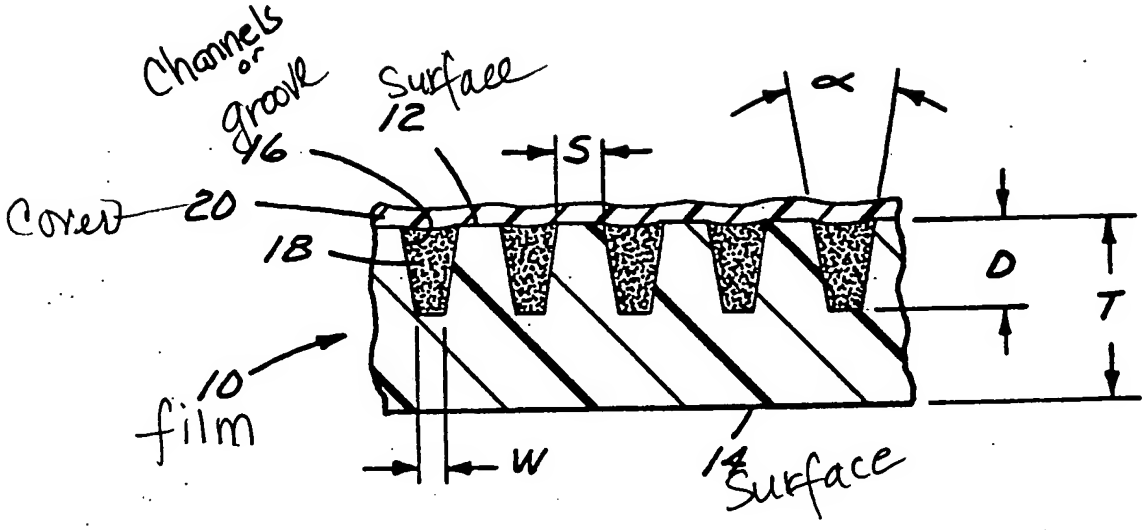
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ingrid Wright whose telephone number is (571)272-8392. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached on (571)272-2800, ext 35. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

IDW

LYNN FEILD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER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12
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film
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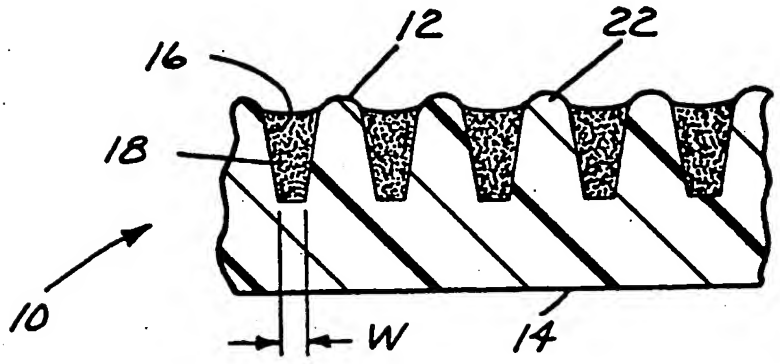
14
Surface

Fig. 1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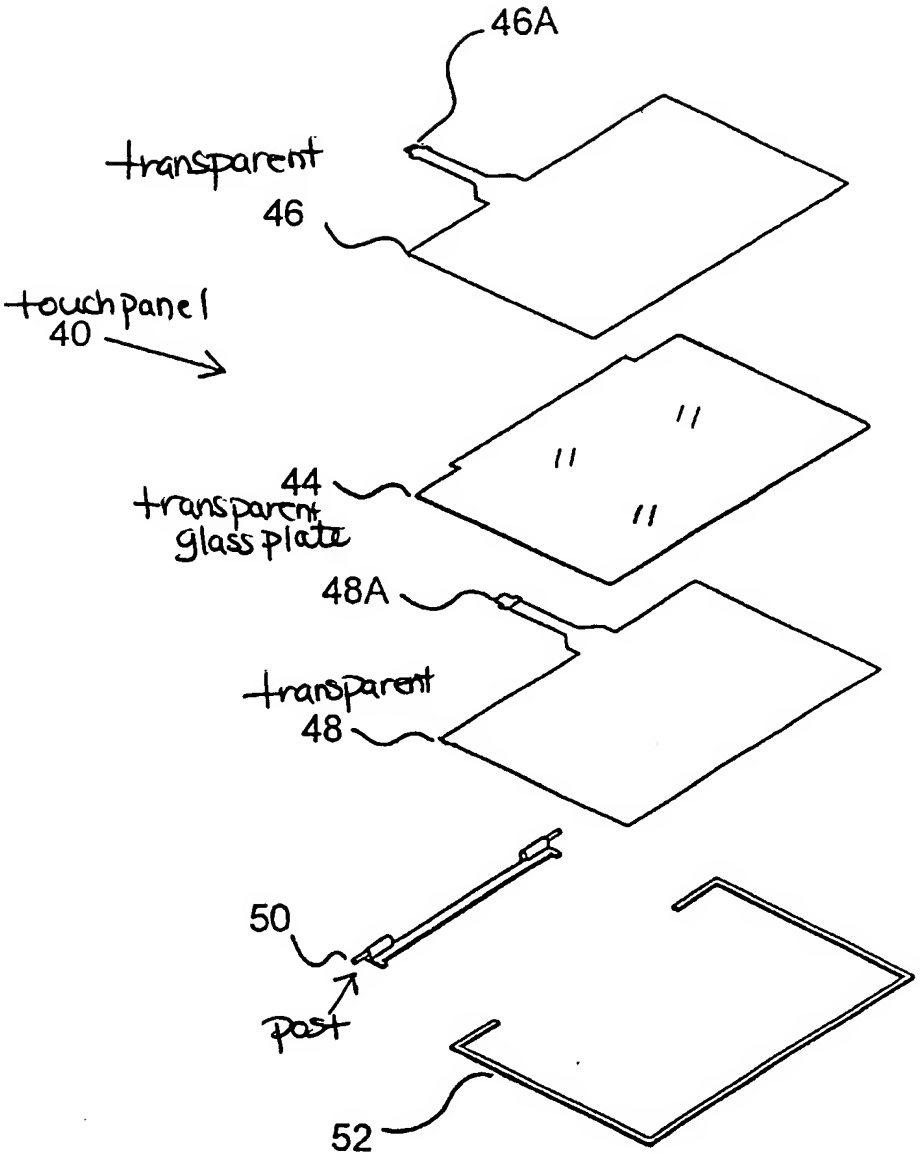
W
14

Fig. 3

Figure 2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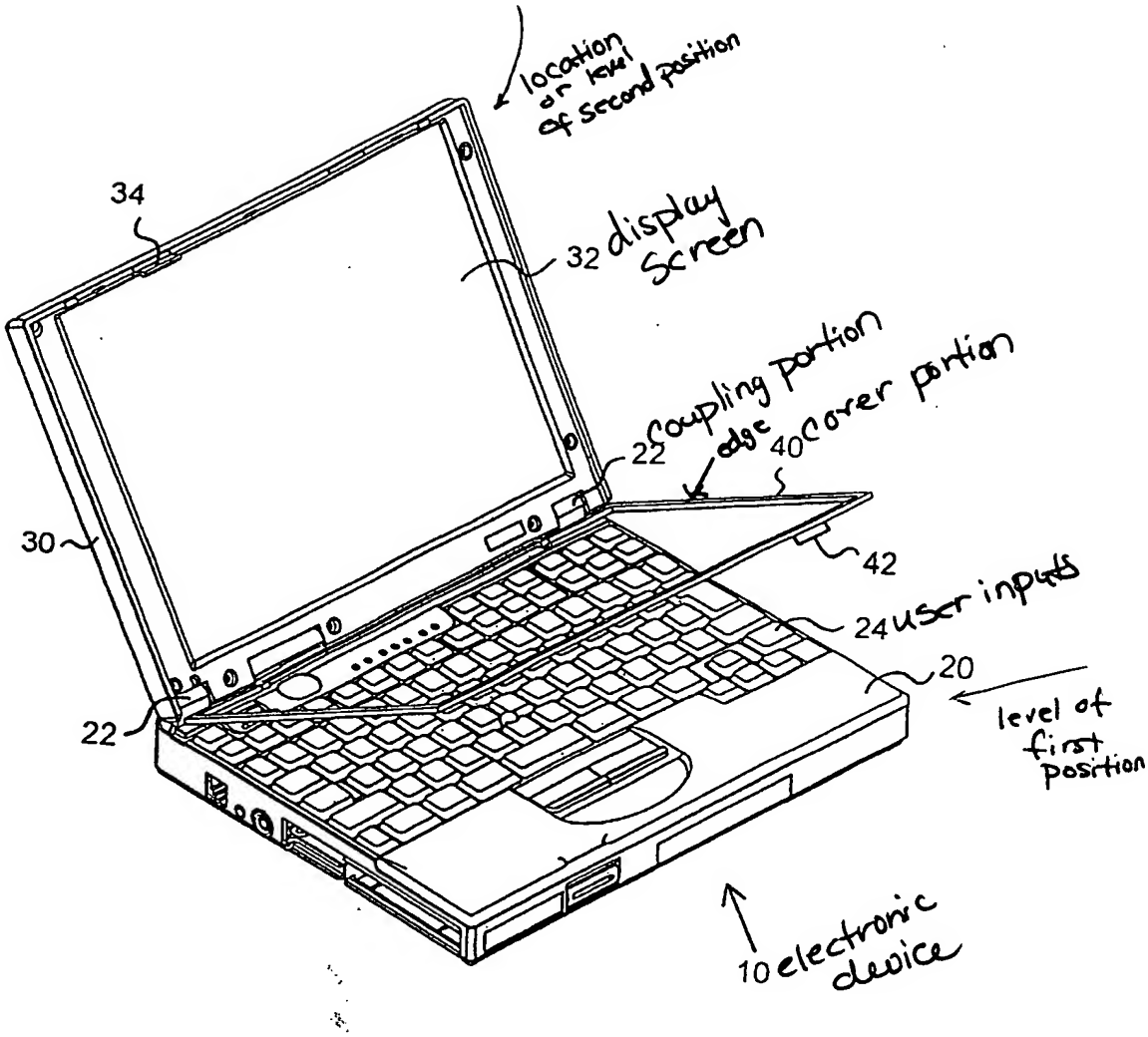
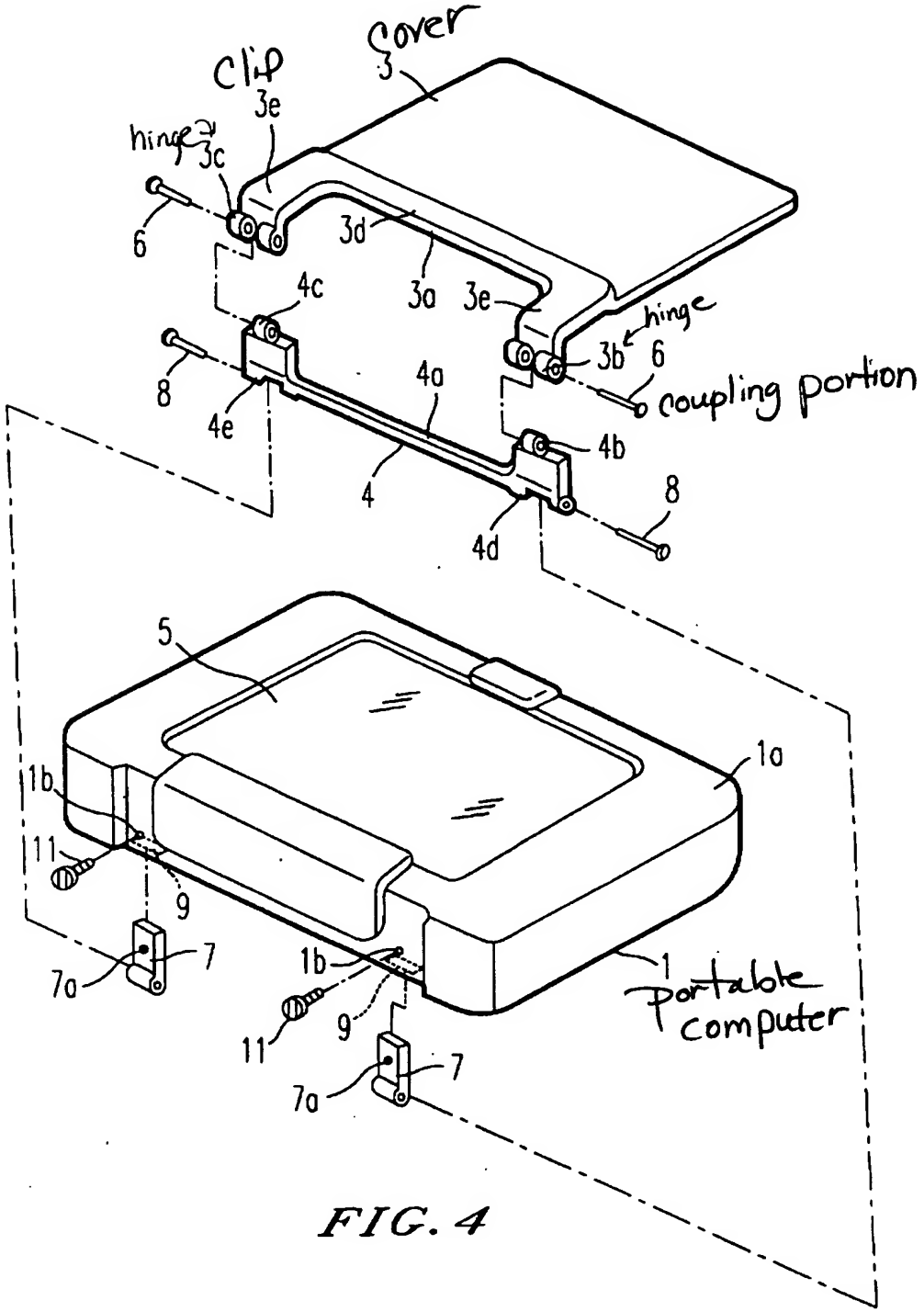
48
50
post
52

Figure 1


location or level of second position
34
32 display screen
coupling portion
22
edge
40 cover portion
30
42
24 user inputs
20
22
level of first position
10 electronic device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4b
4
8
4d
5
1a
1b
11
9
7
7a
1b
1
Portable computer
9
11
7
7a

FIG. 4